

LIST OF CLAIMS / AMENDMENTS

Claims 10-17 and 22 were canceled previously.

Please amend claims 1, 18, and 21 as shown herein.

Claims 1-9, 18-21, and 23-24 are pending and are listed following:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices where each device is evaluated independently of the plurality of devices;

assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group, the assigned devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group;

assigning at least one event-handling policy to the group, wherein the assigned policy is associated with each of the devices in the group; and

revaluating a current state of each device in the group to ascertain validity of membership in the group before the assigned policy is applied to the devices in the group.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a current state of each device determines whether each device is currently a member of the group.

1 **3. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a
2 current state of each device includes:

3 determining whether a particular device is currently a member of the group;
4 and

5 applying the assigned policy to the particular device if the particular device
6 is currently a member of the group.

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8 **4. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each device is
9 assigned at least one additional policy that is not assigned to the group.

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11 **5. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein a particular
12 device is assigned to multiple groups.

13
14 **6. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event
15 handling policy defines how the device is configured.

16
17 **7. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event
18 handling policy identifies the types of events that are provided to each device.

19
20 **8. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the method is
21 implemented by a management module.

1 **9. (Original)** One or more computer-readable memories containing
2 a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method
3 recited in claim 1.

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5 **10-17. (Canceled)**

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7 **18. (Currently Amended)** One or more computer-readable media
8 having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more
9 processors, performs the process of:

10 evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices where
11 each device is evaluated independently of the plurality of devices;

12 assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group, the assigned
13 devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group;

14 identifying an event-handling policy associated with the group of devices,
15 wherein the event-handling policy defines how devices are configured;

16 assigning the event-handling policy to the group of devices; and

17 revaluating a current state of each device in the group to ascertain validity
18 of membership in the group before the assigned event-handling policy is applied to
19 the devices in the group.

20
21 **19. (Original)** One or more computer-readable media as recited in
22 claim 18 wherein a particular device is assigned to multiple groups of devices.
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1 **20. (Previously Presented)** One or more computer-readable media as
2 recited in claim 18 wherein the event-handling policy further defines the type of
3 event data that is provided to each device.

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5 **21. (Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented method
6 comprising:

7 determining current states of systems in an enterprise;

8 assigning the systems to groups based on rules associated with the groups
9 and the current states of the systems;

10 assigning policies to at least one particular group;

11 revaluating current states of each system in the particular group;

12 if the revaluated current states are valid according to the rules associated
13 with the particular group, applying the policies to the systems in the particular
14 group; and

15 if a current state of a particular system in the particular group is not valid,
16 updating the particular group to delete the particular system[[]] and applying the
17 policies to the systems in the updated group.

18
19 **22. (Canceled)**

1 **23. (Previously Presented)** The computer-implemented method as
2 recited in Claim 21, further comprising:

3 creating an event log associated with the particular group; and
4 maintaining information about the states of the systems in the particular
5 group in the event log.

6
7 **24. (Previously Presented)** The computer-implemented method as
8 recited in Claim 21, wherein the current states represent at least one of a version of
9 an operating system, a location in a geographic region, a configuration of the
10 system, presence of a particular hardware item, or capacity of a particular
11 hardware item.